VISITS TO RITTER AND MUEGGE-BER-LIN. HAMBURG AND LUBECK. Serrer wandence of The N. Y. Tribune.

HAMBURG, Nov. 29, 1856. While in Berlin, I paid a visit to Dr. KARL RIT-TER, the distinguished geographer, to whom I had a letter of introduction from my friend Ziegler. I found him at his rooms overlooking the Gendarmmarkt, and, though I happened to call during his bours of study, was at once admitted. Through two rooms, crammed with books from floor to ceiling. I passed to his workshop, which was furnished in the same manner and exhaled the same delightfully infectious odor of antique leather. He was sitting at his desk, in the midst of a chaos of books and papers, but rose and came forward as I entered. Here was again a massive Teutonic head larger than Humboldt's, but not so symmetrically balanced, a broad, overhanging brow, shading large and friendly eyes, a strong nose, and one of those ample, irregular mouths, in which the expression of kindness and goodness atones for the absence of beauty. His hair was gray and thin, for he must have seen at least sixty-five summers, but his tall agure was still erect and full of strength. The dressing-gown he wore, with his unbuttoned collar and bare threat, gave a certain grace and dignity to his appearance, not unlike that which belongs to the picture of Göthe in his latter days.

Our conversation was mostly geographical, and shough I remained but half an hour, through fear of interrupting his labors, it served to illustrate his immense know edge. He touched upon the Japanese and the Chinese, the Tartars and Thibetans, the Lapps and Samoyeds, the Shillooks, the Dinkas and the Bushmen, described the formation of their respective countries, the climate and productions, their habits, laws and religions. My projected lourney to Lapland appeared to interest him, and he advised me to notice the result of the Swedish missionary labors among that people, and to contrast it with the operation of similar labors in India and China. The interior of Swedish Lappmark was, be admitted, a comparatively unknown region, and he commended my design of visiting it in the Winter, when the facilities of getting from point to point are much greater than in Summer, and the Lapps Te gathered together in their side of He recom-

mended the work of Leopold von Buch as the best description of Norway and Lapland. Ritter is now engaged in the publication of a Universal Geography, which, so far as it has appeared, far surpasses all previous works of the same character in the richness and accuracy of its information. The Germans are undoubtedly at present the greatest geographers in the world, and the French, despite their claims, the worst.

I was fortunate in having a letter to THEODOR MUEGGE, the author of "Afraja" and "Eric Randal." When I called at his residence, according to a previous appointment, a pretty little girl of seven er eight years old, epened the door. " Is Herr Dr. Mügge at home?" I asked. She went to an adjacent door and cried out, " Father, are you at home?" "Ja wohl," answered a sturdy voice; and presently a tall, broad-shouldered, and rather handsome man of over forty years made his appearance. He wore a thick, brown beard, spectacles, was a little bald about the temples, and spoke with a decided North-German accent. His manner at first was marked with more reserve than is common among Germans; but I had the pleasure of meeting him more than once, and found that the outer shell covered a kernel of good humor and good feeting.

Lake many other authors, Mügge has received bardly as much honor in his own country as he deserves. His "Afraja," one of the most remarkable romances of this generation, is just beginning to be read and valued. He was entirely unac quanted with the fact that it had been translated in America, where five or six editions were sold in a very few months. I could give him no better evidence of its success than the experience of a friend of mine, who was carried thirteen miles past his home, on a New-Haven railroad train, while absorbed in its pages. He informed me that the idea of the story was suggested to him during his residence at Tromsõe, on the Norwegian coast, where, among some musty official records, he found the moutes of the last trial and execution of a Lapp for witcheraft, about a century ago. This Lapp, who was a sort of chieftain in his clan, had been applied to by some Danish traders to furnish them with good wind during their voyage. He sold them breezes from the right quarter, but the vessel was wrecked and all hands drowned. When asked, during his trial, whether he had not furni-had a bad instead of a good wind, he answered haughtily: "Yes, I sold them the bad wind, because I hated them, as I hate you, and all the brood of thieves who have robbed me and my people of our land." I referred to the character of Niels Helgestad, and spoke of his strong resemblance, in many respects, to one of our Yankee traders of the harder and coarrer kind. Mügge assured me that I would find many of the same type still existing, when I should visit the Lofoden isles. He spent a Summer among the scenes described in "Afraja," and his descriptions are so remarkably faithful that Alexander Ziegier used the book as his best guide in going ever the same ground this year.

We had fog and rain during our stay in Berlin, and did not see the wroud cantal in its for spleader. That portion lying between the Brandenburg Gate and the Royal residence is nobly laid out, and, for the most part, handsomely built. The avenue "Under the Lindens" is on a much more grandiore scale than the Ludwigsstrasec in Munich, (which is partly copied from it,) but has not the same rich and harmonious effect. The streets of Berlin have a stiff, bare, ostentatious appearance, corresponding well with the estimation in which the Berlinese are held throughout Germany. The populace, even at Krell's famous theater and beer saloon in the Thiergamer, have a grave, sedate, perked-up air. There is nothing of the warm, joyous, efferrescent sharacter of the Viennese, or the more heavy and beery, but still bonest, familiarity of the Bavariaus. However, I will not judge Berlin or its people too rashly, for I hope to visit the place again before returning home.

I went of course to the Museum and saw the Picture Gallery, which contains a great many good pictures, and a very few great ones. Among the latter are Titian's Christ and Correggio's Ju piter and lo. There are also some admirable antiques in the Sculpture Gallery. The new Maseum is probably the most superb institution of the kind in the world. Everybody knows the engravings of Kaufbach's freecoes (not yet finished) which illuminate the grand starcase, and I felt inelined to forgive the Vandalism of Lepsius when I

Pfeiffer, the dramatic authorees, and Emil Devrient. The former is a portly dame of fortyfive, with dark hair, and one of those ample faces whose vivacious expression relieves them from the charge of heaviness. She is an excellent comic actress. Emil Devrient disputes with Dawison, in Dresden, the claims to the title of first German tragedian. Having seen both, I have no besitation in deciding in favor of the former. I saw him only in Holfei's play of "Laurel and Beggar's Staff," but he is most renowned in Hamlet, in which part, indeed, he has no acknowledged superier.

We left Berlin on the 20th, and came directly hither, a distance of 180 miles, by railroad. I noticed in the cars a new contrivance for warming the feet, which in our case was wholly successful. Long, flat boxes of tin or zinc, covered with carpeting and filed with hot sand, are placed upon the lour, between the seats, so that the passengers on both sides can make use of them. These boxes were mildly warm when we started, and not quite cold when we arrived at Hamburg, eight hours afterward. The country through which we passed is easily described; as it was one unvarying level, scraggy pine forests interchanging with snowedover fields, and occasionally an ugly village. We stopped two or three times for bread and cheese, beef-soup and (for those who required it) brandy. We passed through the territories of Mecklenburg and Holstein without knowing it, and finally, on hearing marks asked for at the stations instead of groschen, discovered that we were approaching Hamburg. It was not 4 o'clock, but we were already in the North, and as much twilight as could be got out of a sky heavy with snow lighted us to

We have now been here nearly three days, endeavoring to ascertain something about the best means of getting further. After perusing newspapers, consulting bankers and post-office clerks, I finally telegraphed to Lübeck, and have just received an answer stating that the Carl Johan will leave that port for Stockholm on Monday, Dec. 1. The cost of sending 25 words and receiving 10 in answer, a distance of 40 miles, was one Prussian thaler (about 72 cents). Winter is here in full blast; the sleighs are in the streets, the north wind is keen, and the mercury has fallen to 14°. Hamburg has more of the picturesque than most trading towns, the canals cutting through it from the Alster dam to the Eibe, reminding one of Bruges. The

great fire was a great improvement. Sp.cu. streets, raised ten to fifteen feet above the former level, have taken the place of the old, narrow meandering thoroughfares, and Palladian palaces have risen upon the ruins of the old notched house gables. It is a lively, bustling, cosmopolitan place, with English, French and German signs, oyster-cellars, sailors of all nations on the quays, and riotous dancing every night in the suburb of St. Pauli. There are otherwise no remarkable sights to see here, which is quite a relief.

LUBECK, Dec. 1, 1856.

We came hither from Hamburg in darkness and enow, last night. The Carl Johan, for Stockholm, is now getting steam up, in order to break her way through the ice of the Trave, and we are summoned to be on board in an hour. Lübeck, this clear, cold morning, charms me more than any other German town, except Noremberg, with which it has frequently been compared. The houses of three centuries ago still line its streets, which run up and down the sloping shores of the Trave, with heavy brick church-spires dominating over them. It is a small place-only ten to fifteen thousand inhabitants-but quaint, friendly, full of picturesque effects, and unspoiled by progress. In Summer, it must be extremely beautiful.

The porter, speaking a frightful Platdeutsch dia lect, has come for our baggage. I shall therefore close this letter with a motto (adopting and apply ing it at the same time), which I found on an old house here-"It is impossible to please everybody.

A THANKSGIVING DINNER IN GERMANY.

dence of The N. Y. Tribune.

Heidelberg, Dec. 21, 1856. Our first book upon Germany will probably begin something as follows:

The Germans have no idea of sex. Like barbarians they yoke their cows instead of oxen, or werse, yoke a cow and horse together, and send into the field to work with them what nature designed for pretty peasant girls, but constant exesure to sun and rain, with no other hat for a covering than a sheaf of grain or a bisket of vegetables, turns them prematurely to weather-beaten market-

A German plow is a cross between an American side-hill plow and a hand eart. A scythe is a straight stick with a short awkward blade that shuts up like a jack-bnife. Their reaping machines are a clumsy imitation of the sickles our grandfathers used; this however, is probably a necessity, for a more exten-sive machine would reach over the boundaries of a German grain field, the ordinary width of which is not over a rod and a half or two rods. The landed estate of a German farmer-if we may dignify a peasant with such a name-is a sort of German nation in miniature. It ordinarily contains from two to five acres, but it is never all in the same field. He has inherited a little patch here from his father, another there from his maternal ancestors, and bought en some occasion a quarter of an acro and owns a still smaller piece somewhere lse, which has come into his possession by some other means, till the boundaries of his farm, like these of his country, get so honel-by perplexed and changled with everybody's else, that nobody but he can be supposed to have the slightest idea

We might go on, no doubt, at great length, show ing by many excellent illustrations that these Ger man people are the most learned and polite in the but yet in some respects in a state of the

most deplorable darkness. But this is not exactly
the thing we design to write about just now, but
rather to give an account of ourselves, and more
especially of our Thanksgiving dinner.

Two or three weeks ago, in discussing the subject of festival days with our hostess, we mentioned American Thanksgiving Day with the enthu sinsm due to such a tacme, and gave as adequate n idea of it as is capable of be z conveyed to any one who can form no conception of an home; omitting by no means the supper, but por-traying as far as it was possible, in Dutch, both its uternal and external, its symbolic and literal sigficance and beauty.

It seems, for once at least, our eloquence was not without its effect, for night before last the good dy surprised us by taking us confidentially into er privy council, saying that if she remembered rightly, our great American family festival was to come off on the coming day, and that we were to aid in getting up an appropriate dinner.

Dickens somewhere tells a story about the Bag-

Dickens somewhere tens a stary about the Day-man's Uncle, or some other equally well-known individual, who, on being asked if he could play the fiddle, replied, he did not know, he couldn't speak with certainty, for he had never tried, but he pre-sumed he could. We were in something of the same ind in regard to the Thanksgiving dinner.

The truth is, this was a department in which we had exercised our genius to a very limited extent. We had, it is true, a few weeks before had the honer and satisfaction of introducing to the table saw with what taste and splender his spoils are. a luxury se well known at home, discovered on the displayed. In the theaters I saw Fran Birch puriet square, a few tomasses, which the old

market woman was selling as a curiosity (poisonous to be sure, and only to be set up on the shell for ornament) under the name of Paradissafid—apples of Paradise. These we had the satisfaction of introducing to the table with considerable applause, and hence we suppose arose our reputation in these

matters. Now, for the last three weeks, we had seen a nice yellow pumpkin standing in the entry window, and in venturing to make some suggestive remark in regard to it one day, were surprised to learn that too, had no other known use except to stand in the window. It seemed, then, that these people were in just the same deplorable state of darkness in regard to this sublime vegetable as the other, and that no man, woman or child of Heidelberg had ever yet tasted of a pumpkin pie, nor heard that a pumpkin could be turned to any culinary use whatsoever! We lost no time, as you may well suppose, in informing the good woman of its capacities, and its wonderful adaptation to the huan stomach.

As we have already hinted, our knowledge of the culinary art was in the highest degree limited, and purely theoretical; but yet we couldn't resist the temptation to have something to do with the Thanksgiving dinner. So the first thing we did was to ok very wise, and the next was to order in the forlern pumpkin, and delivering over to the frau the matter of soups, and meats, and sauces, and regetables, and apple pies, and Dutch-cheese pies, &c., took upon ourself the onus of the pumpkin The first steps were comparatively easy, but when the next forenoon came and we had got to compound the article, the daring of the under-taking began to be apparent. However, trusting to the well-remembered flavor imbibed in child-hood and the "dim light of reason," we fell back upon our genius and proceeded to give directions. Our hostess shook her head most dubiously at the result; insisted that it was by far too sloppy, and result; insisted that it was by lar too soppy, and that the last three or four pints of milk had ruined it; that we should only bring ridicule upon ourselves from the American side of the table, which we were expecting to take by surprise. However, the pies were at length compounded, "of broad cir cumference and deep," and went to the baker (b) the way, it is amazing the extent to which the di vision of labor is carried in Germany), who at one pronounced them a most absurd compound. More ver, he said that the interior portions must mainly poured off, or his oven (which appeared to be an inclined plane) would be inundated. We sent word back that he would diminish the

depth of those semi-fluid portions only at his peril; bade him contrive to block up the dishes like a senible man, and not lose another minute's time as he alued his peace of mind.

By this time we had worked ourselves up into a fearful state of perspiration and anxiety, for the dinner hour was fast approaching, the Dutch dishes in a far state of progress, and the pumpkin pies-the only thing purely and essentially American, the thing that was to call up visions of fatherland, and bright homes, and happy faces, and merry meetings, and glad and jolly home circles—the pumpkin pies were yet an unsolved problem. We contend that a German Thanksgiving would

be an impossibility. The thing that lies at the bottom of it is wanting. We shall have difficulty in efending ourselves from the charge of being an mpelite people; but we do have homes.

The Germas greets his old friend right heartily leaves his work or business for the evening in honor of him, and takes him to the nearest wine or beer-house to talk over old matters. The American meets his friend and takes him home with him to see his wife and baby, puts him at ease in his snug parlor, treats him not with wine, perhaps, but with nice, large apples of his own raising, and pastry of his wife's compounding, and prides himself in show-ing a refined and happy home. Nevertheless, it must be allowed that there is a

sort of general compensation act in all creation; and the good and evil are mingled more equally than we should suppose. There is no denying that in obliging good nature, and that genuine courtesy that so oils the machinery of ordinary intercourse these people far surpass us. It is pleasant, in walking along these smooth, broad, shaded highways, to meet the peasant people and receive their kind, cheerful greetings; even away up in the un frequented paths among the mountains we have met children rushing along absorbed in that boy's world-over favorite "game of herse," and their hats have come gayly off with their word of greeting as the courtesy were inborn and they couldn't

This certainly forms a contrast to the incipient little American who claims it as his secial prerog ative to as-ert his right by yelling and throwing a

The same principle that allows the meanest American to assert his dignity and rise to manhood and power, makes of him—when he has no disposition to do this -a sort of being the furthest removed from a gentleman that can probably be found on the face of the earth. And the same principle that classes gentle, courteous and contented people, alows them also to remain lower classes for ever.

But we are wandering from our theme again. We are happy to be able to state that in due time the pumpkin pies made their appearance upon the table
-a regular triumph; the Germans themselves proounced them a miracle, and expressed their appr ation largely, by deed as well as word. Thanksgiving dinner in general was a triumph celebrated with full hearts as well as full stomachs. and with all sorts of visions of Yankee land, the native country and birthplace of Thanksgivings, and with remembrances of homes and friends across

On the whole, living in Europe is an excellent way of Americanizing one. R. S. T. FAGL

NORTHERN DISUNION CONVENTION. orrespondence of The N. Y. Tribune.

WORCESTER, Mass., Jan. 14, 1857. The Disunion Convention will assemble to morrow. Taking time by the hair-to use Kossuth's phrase-I have obtained possession of the letters to be read. To copy them in full would be a tedious task, to say nothing of reading them when published. They would fill, at least, a page of THE

TRIBUNE, even if printed in your smallest type. They are from Senator Wilson, Joshua R. Giddings, Charles Francis Adams, the Hon. Amasa Walker, the Hon. Geo. R. Russell, the Hon. O. W. Albee, Professor Stowe, and the Rev. Dr. Bellews

I will briefly notice them in the order named: SENATOR WILSON REGRETS THE MOVEMENT.

Henry Wilson says:
"I have read with sincere and profound regret this will on the people of Massachusetts to meet in Convenien to consider the practicability, probability and expediency of a separation of the Free and Slave States. regret to find gentlemen rushing into a movement which can have no other issues than to put a burden spon the cause to which they have given so many years of relf sacificing toil, and to impure their influence in the future. Impotent for good, this movement can only be preductive of evil. It may be educed upon by lead by artfal noon into the support of the interests Slavery. Improdent words or man deeds on the at of the exponents of Slavery, only add to the pow these in the North and in the South who have use a people to secure the ascendancy of the State opagandists.

The American people are a patriotic people. They atheir country—their whole country. The nessenhe American people are a price people for their country—their whole country. The preservation of that Union which makes us one people is with them a daty impreed alike by interest and patrollem If the movement at Wereester small have any effect all, it will only serve to array against those who are battling to arrest the farther extension of Slavery and

satting to a rest the farther extension of savery and to longer domination of the Slave-perpetualist, that intense, passionate and vehement spurit of nationality thich glows in the bosonion of the American people.

I avoid myself, therefore, of your savitation to communicate my sentiments' to the Convention, to makly amounted by you and the signers of this call, the till have any conjection with any movement which contemplates the intension of the head and the signers of the sign section with any movement when concernance resolution of the Union. The logic of the head and to logic of the head and to logic of the head techniques of the head techniques of the movements, either in the North or South, as crimes against abbrry. I denounced, during the late convess, the sparrouse and reasonable language of Southern policy. rettle and reasonable ingange or Southern poils and preses. I have densumed them here on over of the Senate. I shall hold the incoming Addition responsible before the country, if it best to patronage upon The Richmond Engineers.

I shall resist the confirmation of the Wises, the Floyds, and the Rhetts of the South, if they shall be placed before us for official positions.

"I cannot but indulge the hope that when the signers of this call shall assemble in the heart of our commonwealth, they will conclude to leave all the impotent and puerile threats against the Union to the Southern Slave Propogandists, and proclaim their readiness to follow, is the conflict of the future, the banner of 'Liberty and Union,' around which railied, in the late canvasa, nearly fourteen hundred thousand intelligent and patriotic American Freemen. A firm and inflexible adherence to this constitutional and patriotic position will, I am confident, secure the prohibition of Slavery in all places under the exclusive authority of Congress, overthrow the Slave Power in the National Government, and prepare the way for the peaceful envancipation of the

pare the way for the peaceful emancipation of the bondmen by the consent of the Slaveholding States. HENRY WILSON."

The letter of the venerable J. R. Giddings is very eloquent, and earnest; but your space will not per-mit me to copy it. Let these brief extracts suffice for specimens of its tone:

SOME RESULTS OF STAVERY.

I hesitate not to say that this Government has been so administered, for the last quarter of a century, as to be destructive of the lives, the liberties and the happibe destructive of the lives, the liberces and the happeness of a portion of the people; in short, it has become destructive of the very objects for which it was established. Its influence and its powers have been exerted to extend the most barbarous system of human bondage known to mankind. Three distinct and separate wars have been waged to uphold and maintain the system of American Slavery. More than three hundred tem of American Slavery. More than three hundred millions of dollars have been drawn from the pocke a of our laboring people and paid out by Government for that purpose, and more than five hundred thousand human victims have been sent to premature graves to uphold and maintain the interests of an institution which the present Administration and its supporters are seeking to extend and attention. In one of the ng to extend and eternise. In one of the luded to eighty thousand freemen were sacriced to this Moloch of Oppression, and in one day recently three hundred fathers, mothers and children were barbarously butchered by our army for no other crims than attachment to their God given right to Liberty; and the greats of men and women murdered in Kansas by

ring in our ears.

"We have acquired vest territory and spread the curse of human bondage over it; we have erected nine slaveholding States and received them into our Federal Union; we have authorized Slavery in Utah, New Mexico and Western Texas; we have authorized a constwise commerce in human flesh which is not carried on under the protection of the American flag we have established Stavery and the slave trade in the District of Celumbia, and involved our people of the Free States in the diegrace, the crime and the expense of returning fugitives from oppression; under the fos-tering care of this Federal Government, the number of tering care of this Federal Government, the number of slaves has increased more than three millions, and threughout fifteen States and three Territories bereaved fathers and mothers mount the loss of children torn from their embrace by brutal slavedealers; and brothers and sisters, separated from each other, sigh and weep in chains; and millions of hearts are bleeding under the accumulated wrongs of that lestitution."

"I hesitate not to declare that the Federal Government has been destructive of the ends for which it was iretituted, and the people new hold the clear and indisputable 'linh' ... ener or abolish it' and establish a purely a question of policy, not of duty."

UNION THE TRUE POLICE.

"I think we should remain in the Union, not for the

purpose of upholding and extending Slavery, but for the purpose of upholding and extending Liberty. If we unite upon the doctrines put forth in our Republican platform, our success cannot be delayed or postponed.

"I think our duty and policy unite in urging us to maintain the Union as it is, and to reject all proposi-tions to form new Unions with the Polygamists of Utah or the Slaveholders of Cuba; that we should be active and energetic in our efforts to restore the Government to its original position in favor of freedom, that we should increase the number of Free-States until the should increase the number of Price Slave Power shall be dwarfed to an insignificant por-tion of our Federal Union, that no man shall be elect-ed to any office who hesitates to exert his political and moral influence to carry out the designs of those who moral influence to carry out the designs of established our Government; that we sha arouse the public conscience of the Nation until oppression shall cease to exist outside of the Slave States; we will then say to the Slaveholders of those States: 'Un bird the heavy burdens and let the oppressed go free or if you prefer to remain, let that I

th it. Very respectfully, J. R. Giddings, I may remark in speaking of what Theodore Parker, the other Sunday, in a premeditated sermon, called "the recent righteous insurrections," does not fail to designate the killing of claves as MIRDER of the innocents. Several Republican papers, I observed, talked of John Beli's losses, as if the unoffending slaves who were murdered by the mob had been hogs, hardware, office-

holders, or other mete property.

Charles I rancis Adams, in a courteous, ablywritten letter, states that after careful examination of the grounds of the proposition, "neither as a moral, as a social or as a political question could I give an affirmative answer to the doctrine of "separation," and discusses it from each of these tand-points: Thinks that the defects of the Govrament are not so much caused by any error in the instrument as by the vacillation and weakness of the great body of freemen who have the power in their own hands to correct it and yet refuse

use it. He adds:
"I think the obvious policy is to persevere in reform I think the dovious poncy is to persever in retorning cointon in the Free States—to educate the rising generation in a determined hostility to the spread of Slavery in America—to infuse something of the genuine ripirit of Liberty into the still torpid regions of the Mid ole and Western States, and then to trust to time and the providence of God for a favorable result."

The Hon. Amasa Walker, in a long letter, after

expressing his disgust at "the hypocritical bluster of the public men who "cry up the Union and cry down all who, in the Free States, in any way or manner examine the great question—whether our permanent national prosperity and happiness can be preserved, while the dead carease of Slavery is bound to the living body of Freedom;" after saying that he is "sick of so much cant about Union," which is "all feigned or false," and that the people of Massachussets, as he has the best reason to know, are "quite ready to take the ground, practically, that they will have Liberty and Union or no Union at all;" after giving it a is belief that "nothing is so calculated to enslave the people, stupefy the public conscience, or de-stroy all true manhood," as this "abject, craven pirit' of "blind idelatry which the press of this country, whether literary, political or religious, pay to the Usion;" after reminding us of the at the Union is a means, not an end, which should be repudiated at once and forever when it fails to effect or perverts its object; after stating that r recoon and chavery are assome and irreconcilable antagonisms that cannot by any human possibility coexist;" that "there is not, never was and never can be any concord between Christ and Belial"-announces that

"If the object of yourself and your associates is to awaken the people to a free and fearless discussion of this great question, with a determination to act in such a menner as their conviction shall dictate, let that action be what it may, then I am with you."

Professor Stowe, in a brief note, says that if he e despaired of the Republic he would be a Disunionist, but intimates that he don't, and is there fore a Republican. Favors the idea of kicking the slaveholders out of the Temple of Union, instead of going out ourselves. Such kicks, and the yells they would raise, in my judgment, would be the true music of the Union. But, then, who'll bell the cut ' asks the Worcester Disunionist. That's

The Hen. C. W. Albee writes: "If the Union cannot stand the practical working of the truths enunciated in the Declaration of Independence, it seems to me its value has been calculated. I am not, however, prepared to believe that the triumph of Freecom requires the dissolution of the Union. of Freedom requires the described of the Chion.

Whether it does or not, I am really to relievate and stand by the sentiment I have held and advocated ever since the contest upon the Reseal of the Musouri Compromise began, viz. 'Lee Freedom be preserved to 'Kansas at all hazards.' Yours very respectfully.

The Company of the contest of the contest of the contest of the contest of the Musouri Compromise began, viz. 'Lee Freedom be preserved to 'Kansas at all hazards.' Yours very respectfully.

The Hen. G. R. Russell sends a long and vigorously written letter. Its deluctions may be gleaned by these excerpts:
"I do not think the time has come for the North to

"I do not think the time has come for all to formally propose a dissolution of the Union.
"I believe that there are elements in operation which will cramble the Slave Power into dust, and it is better they should work secrely and allently, garwing at its very heart, then that their action should be anticipated

and extraneous influences, it weren, I am mistaken in this supposition—if that infernal tyranny is to sit crouching fike an incuba-on the lacest of the nation, and there is no other hope for its overthrow than an utter dissolution of the comset which holds these States is a niedersey, the coner it is reserved to the better it will be for as and

"I say this in no making feeling toward the South, must conclude my letter at once.

and with no desire to check her prosperity, or to leave her in that herpless imbecility to which separation would reduce her.

"Whether this is or is not the time for the North to "Whether this is or is not the time for the North to agitate the question of separation, it certa'nly has abundent reason to justify itself in so doing. While I have strong doubts as to the present capediency of the measure, I honor those who, feeling the necessity, came forward as pioneers without counting on public approval or reprobation. That many will keep aloof who secretly stuff in the movement may be expected from the experience of all past time. That others will condemn with the accustomed routine of holy horror which is always expended on proposed reforms, is as natural a result as the dismay of true believers at the desceration of their idol. But the Ucion is not an Afdescration of their idol. But the Usion is not an Af-tican fetish to be blindly worshiped, but it is to be honored or despised in proportion to the measure of its powers for good or evil. It may be a blessing or a curse, and must be judged accordingly.

"Those who whine about the Unior, and, bidding us "There who whine about the Union, and, bidding is forget our injuries, assure us that in no possible event can there be a separation of the States, either mistake the signs of the times or are deployably ignorant of the character of their countrymen. "If the policy of this vile oligarchy continues to rule there must either be a line drawn between us, or the war must be carried into Africa. "We would keep the Union as long as it is worth keeping, and no longer. When it becomes hopelessly worthless, involving us in constant shame and degradation, it can be, ought to be, and will be broken us." vill be, broken up."

One sign of the times is observable in all these and other letters received. They are, all of them. Wilson's excepted, written in a respectful toue.
"Times aint now as they used to was."

WORCESTER, Thursday, Jan. 15, 1857. The Convention assembled in the City Hall at 104 o'cleck. It was called in order to consider the practicability, prob bility and expediency of a separation of the Free and Slave States. The grounds of this call are that its signers believe

"The result, &c., of the recent Presidential Election to in rive ther years more of Pro-Slavery Government, and a rapic crease in the bostlity between the two sections of the Union elect this bostlity to be the effering, not of party excite

Gen. Higginsen called the Convention to order. After a temporary organization, the following permanent officers were chosen:

President-Prancis Well Chocent:

President-Prancis W. Bird, Walpole, Massi-hasetta.

lice-Presidents-Thomas Earle, Worcester, Wm Lloyd
Carrison Gen. E. M. Hesmer, Wm Ashby, W. Boylston, Dr.
C. C. Field, Acam Ward, Dr. Danid Mann of Sterling.

Secretarise-Alvan Ward, Chas. Bingham, J. M. W. Yerrington, Boston; S. D. Tourvellotte, Worcester.

Business Committee-Gen. Highinson, Chas. K. Whipple, E.
Boyden, Wendell Phillips, Joel Smith, Leominster.

SPEECH OF MR. BIRD.

The President, as one of the humblest members of the Republican party, felt it his duy to protest against the construction now boldly put on the Philadelphia Platform by leading Republican politicians at Washington, and it was for this purpose chiefly that he become to this Convention. The leading politicians at Washington were rebing us out [Appiause]. The Philadelphia Platform did not contain any sentiment estepping as from further advances against the Slave washington were rebited us out [Appisase]. The Philadethia Platform did not contain any sentiment estepping us from further advances against the Siave Power. It contained one idea. It was admirable on this account; for no political party ever did or c suld support more than one paramount idea, although some pretended to do ro. But that idea was not antagonistic to other Anti Slavery principles. It was not opposed to Gerrit Smith's doctrine, or other radical Anti-Slavery principles. It was not opposed to Gerrit Smith's doctrine, or other radical Anti-Slavery principles. It was a step in advance, but not a final step. He protested against Hale and Wilson's loctrine, and the speeches of Trumbull and Sherman of Onio, who prerumed to pledge the great Republican party to their low, temperizing and compromising doctrinor of refuture and more radical more ment against Slavery, Wilson says that the Republican party would protect Slavery in South Carolina—for his non-interventionism amounts to this. Now, where did be get authority to say so? Not in the Philadelphia Platform; for no such groveling doctrine was there. He regretted, as unworthy of the Northern character, the spologetic speeches of Wilson and one ex-esdropper had perverted. It showed that the Slave Power would not only prevent public action, if they could, against Southern Slavery, but were determined to crush cut the private discussion of it. Northern nen should, instead of stooping to define their position—to explain away their principles—disdain to notice the slavers, but boidly dely them, as they did before leaving Massanhuseus [Loud applause]. He regarded the recent election as the decision of the nation in favor of Slavery. Now, what was our duty? To fight over dead and gone issues, like he dl Whigs, or to prepare to meet the conning issues! He thought the latter course wiser. He believed that Freedom and Slavery could not exist under the same Government—that they were inhereally and eternally antagonistic; but how a dissolution of the Cinion could be our politicians a ted always as conductors, to draw off the moral electricity, which otherwise would ere this

Gen. Higginson read extracts from the letter of the Hon, A. Walker, part of which I sent to you, the letter of Senator Wilson, and a communication just received from Theodore Parker. It was in Theodore's best style. I will send it on,

have annibilated Stavery [Appl

Gen. Higginson, after reading Senator Wilson's letter, remarked that it was not written by S. A. Douglas or Caleb Cushing, but by a man who, long ago, complained that politicians were behind the people and now proved it [Applause]. A crazy man arose in the body of the hall and ob-

cted to the terms Hon. and Gen., as applied to Wilson. He did not regard Wilson as an able" man, because he compromised with Slavery nor as a "General," because Generals fight, and Wilson was challenged he ditn't [Laughter] The Committee then reported the following reso

lutions, which were read and laid before the Con vention for criticism:

PLATFORM OF THE REVOLUTIONISTS.

solved. That the no sting of a State Disonion Convention, at-on by men of various parties and affinities gives occasion new statement of principles and a new platform of action, olded. That the cardinal American principle is now, as al-liberty, while the prominent fact is now, as always, erd. That the conflict between this principle of Liberty, fact of Slavery has been the whole history of the nation

and this fact of Stavery has been the whole history of the nation or fifty hears; while the only result of this conflict has thus far cen to strong hou both parties and prepare the way for a yet ore desperate struggle.

Besoived, That in this emergency we can expect little or others from the South itself, because it is sinking deeper into conhariem every year;
No I from a Septeme Court which is always ready to invent
to we seem a 1-raise shoulders;
Nor from a Preside." elected almost solely by Southern

Nor from a Senate which is permanently controlled by the Stare power; Not from a new House of Representatives, which, in spite of our spiration, will be more Pro-Slavery than the present one, though the present one has at length granted all which Slavery

Maked;
Nor from pellitical action, as now conducted; nor the Bo-holican leaders and presses freely admitted, in public and rivate, that the election of Kremont was, politically speaking, the last hope of Kreedom," and even could the North cast, and the devote in 1860, the South has before it four years of annexa-

n previous to that time. simical splits for and the action we propose, is this: the enquires the enquiresence of the Slave Power, and the

the requires the acquiencence of the Slave Power, and the other rily its opposition.

Resolved, That the necessity of distinct is written in the whole existing character and condition of the two continued the construction in the existing character in the classical organization, education, habits and laws—in the dispersion of our write citizens in Kanasa, and of our reserved curs is Boston—in the wounds of Charles Surmer at dith invites of the massilant; and no Government on earth was even with a recomment on earth was even with a recomment on earth but the noise particular the forces.

Resolved That this new varieties not was to be the expension of the Slave State strong the confederation in which they have two been an element of obscord, danger and discussion.

Semined That the role probable that the ultimate severation of the Union will be an act of deliberation or discussion—but that a later period of deliberation and discussion must proceed it, and this we must be later.

the Union will be an ac-at a king period of deliberation and discussion. It is the period of deliberation and discussion of Reselved. That he to the ward, instead of regarding it as an ob-cilin to any system of police, that it will lead to the separa-cion of the States, we will probable that to be the hidnest of all recommences and the grateful proof of streamanding, and the commences and the grateful proof of streamanding and the country politically, or otherwise, so in men and measures the result.

pport politically, or otherwise, so in men and measures on to tend most to this result.

fixed, Thus, by the repeater confession of Northern and its statement. Thus, and the existence of the Union is the chief y of Siavery." and that the despots of the whole worst verything to tear, and the slaves of the whole worst its to kepe, from its destruction, and the rise of a Froe

certains to keps, from its outless. Herefore, and the separation takes place, the Resulted Tayl the scorner the separation takes place, the core peacetrs in will her, but that peace or war is a secondary core peacetrs in will her out present perils. Sisvery must be extracted this, in view of our present perils. Sisvery must be exquered, "peaceably if we can, forcibly if we must." Mr. Samuel May, jr., spoke to the resolutions, and in opposition to Mr. Parker's letter. The President made some additional hamorous

remarks, and Mr. Garrison angured bright proscets for the cause, from the fact that a Bird of Freedom had hovered over the Convention. But for neither Mr. May, the President, nor Mr.

Garrison, will the mail keep open; and therefore I

MICHIGAN.

To the Editor of The N. Y. Tribune. SIR: Both branches of the Legislature of this State assembled at the capital on the 7th inst. and

organized. In the Senate the Lieut Governor, George A. Coe, is the presiding officer; Isaac W. Wilder, Secretary: Nathan H. Pierce, Sergeant-at-Arms;

D. C. Henderson, Rep. rter.

The House organized by the choice of Byron G.
Stout as Speak r; C. V. DeLand, Clerk; George
Winters, Sergeant-at-Arms; Aaron B. Turner,

Reporter.

The Governor delivered his Message yesterday. A Republican cancus was held last evening to nominate a successor to Gen. Cass, which resulted

as follows: INFORMAL BALLOTINGS Black.....

The caucus then adjourned to meet this evening. The Hon. E. B. Fairfield presided.

On the reassembling of the joint caucus this evening, the members proceeded to take an informal and formal ballot with the following result:

BALLOTINGS. Informal. Formal.
 Chandler
 54

 Christiancy
 33

 J. M. Howard
 3

 H. H. Emmons
 1
 Blank

The pames of Messrs. Blair and Wisner were withdrawn previous to the last formal balloting, and that of Mr. Christiancy after that ballot was taken.

On the formal ballot being announced, Mr. Hays moved that the Hon. Zachariah Chandler be declared unanimously nominated. This motion was seconded by Gen. F. W. Kellogg in a neat little speech; and after some appropriate remarks from Mr. Gregory of Wayne, this motion was unanimously earried. The result was announced amid a storm of cheers. The ball of the House of Representatives, where the caucus was convened, was open to the during the whole of its sessions, and there was a large attendance from all parts of the State in with ness these interesting proceedings. Much feeling had been manifested previous to the caneus, but now everything is harmony. To-morrow Mr. Chandler will receive every Republican vole in the Legislature, and on the 4th of March next you Pay expect to see him at Washington in the piace of Gen Cass. Yours, Wolvering.

Lansing, Mich., Jan. 9, 1807.

GOVERNOR BISSELL'S INAUGURAL

We gave the other day an abstract of the Message f the retiring Governor of Illinois.

General Bissell the new Governor, in his inaugural address, recommends an appropriation, to a reasonable amount, to aid the State Agricultural Society, as asked for by that Society; the appropriations asked for by the Hospital for the Insane, the Deaf and Dumb Asylum, and the School for the Blind, all of which are represented as having more than equaled the warmest anticipations formed of them; the provision of funds for establishing a School for Idiots; a new Penitentiary in the Northern part of the State; appropriations to aid schools for the reform of juvenile delinquents; a revision, in accordance with a report submitted by the Superintendent of Schools, of the laws regulating the School system, which, though established on a correct basis, is embarrassing and almost impracticable in some of its details; and an amendment of the Banking laws, so as to give increased security to bill-holders.

It devolves upon the present Legislature to re-apper tion the State for the election of State Senators and Representatives on the basis of the census of 1855, in connection with which he suggests the expediency of considering whether the increase of population does not justify and require an increase in the number of Representatives as provided for in the State Constitution. The Governor declares himself favorable to such an increase, not only on considerations of convenience, but as a matter of popu ar right.

The Governor fully indorses all that was said by his predecessor on the subject of the Illinois Central Railread; the relations existing between which Company and the State appear to be on a very amicable and satisfactory basis. The road, in the opinion of the Governor, promises at once great benefits to the people of the State, especially those of its southers perties, who have hitherto severely felt the want of access to markets, and an ample supply to the State Treasury sufficient at no distant day entirely to relieve the citizens from taxation for State purposes. He mentions by name Morris Ketchum, George Griswold, David A. Neal and Jonathan Sturges (especially the first) as being entitled to the gratitude and honarable remembrance of the citizens of Lilinois, for the hold and skillful policy with which they have carried this great enterprise to a successful completion, notwithstanding the gloom that at times surrounded it, and even at a risk of their own private means, to an exert that might have ruined them, had the enterprise

Illinois has been very much indebted for its unrivaled presperity to an intelligent and industrious emigrationto the Governor remarks, and he congratulates the Legislature upon the appearance of a returning spirit of barmony and kindness in place of the permanent estrangement lately threatened by a combination of causes between different sections of the population. The Nebraska bill is spoken of as an attempt to change the institution of Slavery from an anomaly tolerated through necessity, into a leading and favor ite element of our institutions, to which everything else must be made to bend-an attempt to which the Governor is resolved, in common with a large portion of his fellow-citizens, to offer the mest strenuous resu tance, as involving not merely the fate of the negro, but the fiberties of all men.

MARINE AFFAIRS.

LOSS OF THE BARK BYRON IN THE LOWER BAY.

SAFETY OF THE OFFICERS AND CREW.

The bark Byron, Capt. Gray, from Cardenas, with sugar, was cut through by ice in the Lower Bay, at 10 a. m. yesterday, and her officers and crew narrowly excaped with their lives. So sudden was the disaster, but in five minutes after the collision the deck of the berk was under water. Fortunately, they were enabled to launch the boat, and had barely got into it when the vessel went down. She was hailed about 9 a. m. by tre captain of the steaming Hercules, but the commarder of the Byron, disregarding his warning, determined to work his vessel up through the ice under sail. The steaming Underwriter, soon after the disaster, picked up the bont's crew, and all hands set to work saving the rails and rigging. The details of the occurrence are embodied in the following

STATEMENT OF THE SECOND MATE. The bark Byron, Capt. Gray, left Cardenas Dec. 30, with a cargo of 335 hogsheads of sugar. We were

three times here too on the passage, with heavy gales from the north-cast north of Hatterse, and the vessel leaked 30 strekes as hour. Yesterday morning about I o'clock we made Sandy Hock, and came up toward the city under sail. The steaming Hercules helled us in the mercing off Sandy Hock and select if we wanted a tow, but we declined. When we had got just above a tow, but we declined. When we had got just above the Dumb Bescon some four miles above the Hook and just about the Middle Ground, we stuck a hevy coke of ice, and in about two minutes after found that e he of for, and in about two minutes after found that the back was impoly sinking by the head. The pilot ordered as to square yards, and he attempted to run he ashere upon the Romer Bank. The bow port however, appeared to have been stoveld, and she suck to quickly to allow us to get be regreated. Cast. Gray ran to the boat, on the main hat h, and or fered it to be got arest the side. She was lying bestom up, but we carned but over, and lant the her. The bank washes as saidenly that in five minutes after to king the let the waste was expected to the cover the deca. We were unable to save anything